

Remarks

In response to the Restriction Requirement, the Applicants elect Group I, directed to claims 62-70, drawn to a method for treating or preventing a viral infection by administering siRNAs against CCR5, without traverse. Applicants reserve the right to file continuing and divisional applications or take such other appropriate action as deemed necessary to protect the non-elected inventions. Applicants do not hereby abandon or waive any rights in the non-elected inventions.

In response to the species election, Applicants elect HIV as a virus, liposomes as a pharmaceutical carrier, and sequence ID Nos. 1 (sense) and 2 (antisense) of a sequence that form siRNA directed to human CCR5 (see, e.g., page 45 of the specification).

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 62-70 are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

In the event that any additional fees are required, the Commissioner is hereby is authorized to charge our deposit account No. 50-0850.

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Respectfully submitted,

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